

## Letter from Alexander Melville Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, May 25, 1879

Tutelo Heights, Brantford, Ont., Canada, May 25th, 79. (No envelope) My dear Al.,

I have had one of your transmitters made and it promises to be very successful. It is much louder than the "Blake" but we have not been able yet to get it as clear. The diaphragm carbon plays between—two other carbons electrically connected. The fault is a ringing vibration. We are going to try a thicker diaphragm. Can you suggest anything? I should add that there is a spring damper with a piece of india rubber pressing at one point on the diaphragm. We stood the transmitter on top of the piano and the music was heard 8 or 10 feet away from the telephones in Brantford. The Blake under the same circumstances was not heard at a distance of one foot. But in the Blake the notes were sharp and clear while in the other there was an accompaniment as if from a band of music. I hope you will find time to answer Mr. Baker's letter forwarded to you by Mr. Henderson. I shall keep up experiments with the new transmitter till we get it perfect. I was heard in Brantford at all distances up to 38 feet from the transmitter! At 10 feet an ordinary reciting voice was well heard. Mamma is writing to Mabel and will give all domestic news. We shall soon have your new quarters ready for you, and I hope you will occupy them as soon as you can, as often, and as long as you can.

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What progress are the suits making? Love to all.

Your affectionate father, Alex. Melville Bell.